



June 12, 2018

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Stephanie Kercheval
Regional Freedom of Information Officer
U.S. EPA, Region 10, Office of Ecosystems, Tribal and Public Affairs
1200 6th Avenue ETPA-124
Seattle, Washington 98101

Dear Ms. Kercheval:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) received a request for records under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) on June 5, 2017. Records were released to the Requester on November 3, and 28, 2017, in which some records were redacted under Exemption (b)(5) Deliberative Process Privilege. The Requester appealed the use of this exemption. Upon further review of the Requester's appeal, I am referring these records to you which contains items of information which either originated with, or were furnished by, your agency.

The assigned NRCS FOIA Appeal Number is 2018-NRCS-00181-A.

Enclosed are documents totaling 148 pages which contain information of interest to your agency. Accordingly, I am referring them to your Office for direct response. The requester will be notified of this referral.

A copy of the requester's initial FOIA request is enclosed for your reference.

If you have any questions, you may contact Philip Buchan, JD, Supervisory Government Information Specialist, directly at (301) 504-1701 or philip.buchan@wdc.usda.gov.

Sincerely,

Heather L. Higgs
FOIA Officer
NRCS National FOIA Team Detailee

Enclosures:
Original FOIA Request 2017-NRCS-04787-F: 21 pages
Responsive Records: 148 pages

cc: w/o enclosures
Philip Buchan, Supervisory Government Information Specialist, NRCS, Beltsville, Maryland